AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all previous versions and listings of claims in the present application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A playback apparatus for playing a digital stream in conjunction with an application executing in the playback apparatus, comprising:

a package manager operable to generate package information by merging a first file recorded on a first recording medium and a second file recorded on a second recording medium, in accordance with merge management information recorded on the second recording medium, the merge management information indicating the second file on the second recording medium for merging with the first file on the first recording medium;

a selector operable to detect a plurality of titles from the package information and to select one of the detected titles as a current title;

an application executor operable to execute an application associated with the current title, the application <u>being</u> operable to request the package manager to generate new package information using new merge management information, the new merge management information referencing a third file on the second recording medium for merging with the first file on the first recording medium; and

a playback controller operable to control playback of the digital stream associated with the current title, wherein

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the package manager sets the third file to read-only when the application requests generation of the new package information, and

the package manager generates the new package information when the digital stream playback stops due to a change of the current title.

2. (Cancelled)

- 3. (Previously Presented) The playback apparatus of claim 1, wherein the third file on the second recording medium indicated by the new merge management information is set to read-only for a period during which the new package information is valid.
- 4. (Previously Presented) The playback apparatus of claim 1, wherein the package manager verifies a validity of the new merge management information.
- 5. (Previously Presented) The playback apparatus of claim 4, wherein the package manager verifies the validity of the new merge management information by confirming that the new merge management information has not been tampered with, confirming that the third file indicated by the new merge management information exists on the second recording medium, and changing a file storing the new merge management information and a file referenced from the new merge management information to read-only.

6. (Previously Presented) The playback apparatus of claim 4, wherein

the package manager generates the new package information when information in a permissible tag of the requesting application shows that a right to update the package information has been assigned, and

when the information in the permissible tag of the requesting application shows that a right to update the package information has not been assigned, or when the permissible tag has not been assigned to the requesting application, the package manager performs exception processing without processing the update request from the application.

- 7. (Previously Presented) The playback apparatus of claim 1, wherein the package manager creates the package information from only the first recording medium when the merge management information does not exist in the second recording medium.
- 8. (Previously Presented) The playback apparatus of claim 1, wherein the second recording medium includes a plurality of disc dependent areas, and the package manager identifies a disc dependent area corresponding to the first recording medium, and replaces the merge management information with the new merge management information specified by the application to the identified disc dependent area.
 - 9. (Previously Presented) The playback apparatus of claim 1, wherein

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the package information includes a plurality of digital streams and playlist information showing a playback order of the digital streams,

digital stream playback is performed according to the playback order shown by the playlist information, and

the selector changes the current title based on the playlist information and execution of the application in conjunction with an end of the digital stream, by choosing a different one of the detected titles as the current title.

- 10. (Previously Presented) The playback apparatus of claim 1, wherein the selector changes the current title in response to a user executed operation calling a menu processing title, by choosing the menu processing title as the current title.
- 11. (Currently Amended) The playback apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a status register storing that stores a parameter relating to a digital stream playback, and a backup register, wherein

the parameter stored in the status register is saved to the backup register when the selector changes the current title, and the backup register is initialized when the package information is updated.